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# Alexandria Gazette

ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA, TUESDAY, AUGUST 24, 1915.

## WEATHER REPORT

Showers tonight; Wednesday partly cloudy; gentle to moderate southwest to west winds. High tide, 7:31 a. m. and 7:55 p. m. Sun rose 5:22. Sun sets 6:42.

PRICE, 2 CENTS.

## RUSSIA TO GIVE UP IMPORTANT CITIES

Vilna and Bielostok Expected to Fall Into Hands of Germans

### PETROGRAD IS SAFE?

Muscovites Say They Are Not Crushed—Will Be Rapid Increase in Production of War Munitions

Petrograd, Aug. 24.—Frank admission that the important cities of Vilna and Bielostok will shortly fall into the hands of the Germans, thus severing the Petrograd-Poland railway, was made by a high official of the war office today.

Our forces, however, will retain two tank lines and various branches, sufficient to withdraw our armies without danger of capture," said this official in an interview approved by the government. "We do not believe that Petrograd is in any danger from the German armies. Ample forces have been concentrated and the necessary measures have been taken to protect the capital."

The war office, the official said, gives full credit to German strategy for directing a campaign that will be recorded as one of the greatest offensive movements in the world's history.

He admitted that the Austro-German successes in the east were due to strategical superiority, rather than to any preponderance in men on the enemy's side. But the war office, he said, is greatly cheered at the rapid increase in the production of war munitions and sees a bright outlook for the future.

"The idea that the Germans have crushed our armies is ridiculous," he said, with heat. "That is just what the Germans have been unable to do. They have pounded down forts and forced us to retreat, but territory is something that always can be regained."

"The day is not far distant when we will again assure the offensive and push the Austro-Germans back to their own borders. There is no concealing the fact that our present difficulties are due to errors we have made in the past. But we are firmly confident that they will be followed by a moment of complete triumph."

The war office official urged the people to repose the fullest confidence in the success of the allied forces now attacking the Dardanelles.

"Though the progress of the allies seems slow, the truth is that the most intense warfare presently will be proceeding," he said in conclusion. "The results that will be finally manifested will be enormous."

### THE SURPRISE THEATRE.

In accordance with the policy of making their feature program the best on the market the V-L-S-E producers are securing the rights to many well-known books and plays. On Wednesday they will present at the Surprise, Harold Mac Grath's best seller "The Carpet from Bagdad" featuring Miss Kathryn Williams. The photoplay is on a par with "Granstar" and others V-L-S-E offerings that have been shown in this popular theatre. Thursday has been reserved as the day of mirth a two part Keystone Comedy being shown every Thursday, "The Patriot and the Spy" a tale of the great war now in progress is the Mutual Masterpicture for Friday with James Cruze and Marguerite Snow, stars of the Million Dollar Mystery, in leading roles.

### NOTICE TO RED MEN.

Important meet of Osceola Tribe, No. 1, Improved Order Red Men will be held Wednesday, August 25th at 8 o'clock p. m. All members are urgently requested to be present.

Business of importance. By order J. T. Luckett, Sachem.

Charles Nagel, C. of R.

### NOTICE

I hereby give notice to the public that I will not from this date be responsible for any debts contracted by anyone other than myself.

Frank Wooster.

### DEATHS IN FLOOD.

Serious conditions in Arkansas, Missouri and Parts of New York State.

Newport, Ark., Aug. 24.—Ten persons were drowned and the entire city of Newport was flooded early yesterday when the big levee protecting the town from White river broke just above Newport.

Steamboats are running over corn and cotton fields rescuing farmers and their families who are marooned. The river is still rising.

A causeway over the lake, built at a cost of \$25,000, was washed away in the flood and it is reported that three negroes were caught in the path of the flood when it struck the causeway and were drowned.

Thousands of persons are homeless in the White River bottoms near this city. Damage to property in this section was estimated at \$500,000.

St. Louis, Mo., Aug. 24.—The county of St. Louis yesterday staggered under the weight of a second disastrous flood. Twelve lives were the toll of the last escapee of the overflowing rivers in this section. All were lost along the Meramec River, which was out of its banks.

There were reported 100 other persons missing, and fully 2,000 families were homeless as the result of last night's twenty-four hours of steady rain. Hundreds of summer cottages that had lined the river were swept away and the occupants of the frail structures escaped death by narrow margins in scores of instances.

Saratoga Springs, N. Y., Aug. 24.—With twenty-four hours of steady rain following a month of almost daily rains, this section has suffered unprecedented damage. Farmers have lost entire crops from flooded fields. Saratoga Lake is the highest it has been at this time of the year in twenty-five years. Cottages occupied by summer guests have had to be abandoned on the shore, and many are several feet under water. The lake road is under water in several sections.

Ellenville, N. Y., Aug. 24.—It was estimated today that about \$10,000 damage was done by the cloudburst which visited the city Sunday. Two houses were demolished and two others torn from their foundations when the cloudburst caused the overflowing of Sandburg Brook and the flooding of Chapel street, in the eastern section of the city.

### BRITISH SHELL ZEEBRUGGE

Germans Taken by Surprise—Much Damage Done.

Rotterdam, Aug. 24.—Shortly after daybreak yesterday the Germans defending the Belgian coast in the neighborhood of Zeebrugge and Knocke were suddenly subjected to a terrible bombardment by a large fleet of British warships.

The fleet, which comprised about thirty large and small vessels, suddenly opened a withering fire on the coast defenses of the German garrison, which for some time has been free from the militant attentions of the allied fleet.

The Germans, who recently had been boasting that no fleet now dare face the big German coast defense guns, were caught napping at Zeebrugge, which was the chief object of the attack and suffered enormously from the bombardment.

The firing lasted three hours. The big naval guns, it is believed, smashed a large portion of the defense works. The famous mole suffered, in addition to the special works constructed by the Germans.

Abraham Ruef under fourteen year sentence for offering a bribe, left San Quentin Cal., penitentiary on parole yesterday, departing by a side gate while photographers and reporters stood about the main gate in the rain. The former political boss of San Francisco had served four years and five months and fifteen days of his sentence, which had been cut by good behavior to eight years and ten months.

FOR SALE.—Highest point, G. Washington park, facing King St., four adjoining lots ..... \$800. Eight room frame dwelling, modern conveniences, large side lot, terms to suit ..... \$2,000. E. J. FLEMING, 119 S. Fairfax Street.

PEACHES.—Dr. Outcalt will have choice peaches for sale all week. 122 S. Washington, Street.

## UNITED STATES TO ACT QUICKLY

Germany Must Disavow Sinking of Arabic or Give Valid Excuse

### LISTEN TO NO PARLEY

President Wilson Awaiting Report From Ambassador Page Before Taking Any Definite Step.

Washington, Aug. 24.—Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, who is at Cedarhurst, L. I., today asked the United States to withhold judgment on the sinking of the White Star liner Arabic with the loss of two American lives until the United States has heard all the facts in the case.

The request came in the form of a telegram received at the Department of State shortly after noon today, and it was not made public and officials declined to discuss it.

Washington, Aug. 24.—The gravity with which the Administration regards the sinking of the White Star liner Arabic by a German submarine, with the loss of two American lives, was indicated last night when some definite information regarding the President's attitude was obtained from a high official.

It was stated that if Germany attempts to defend the sinking of the Arabic, without offering good reasons in extenuation, it is the Administration's present intention to break off diplomatic relations, and that this action will probably be taken within 24 hours after the receipt of the German communication.

In this connection it is significant that officials of the State Department were engaged all day yesterday in looking up precedents on the recall of ambassadors. The State Department library was ransacked for authorities on the subject. In breaking off diplomatic relations the course to be followed would be for the United States to withdraw Ambassador Gerard from Berlin and ask Germany to recall Ambassador von Bernstorff.

It is now generally believed in official circles that only prompt disavowal by Germany of the sinking of the Arabic can avert a break between the two governments. The view here however is that this would not necessarily mean war. It is well understood that President Wilson's opinion is that the breaking off of diplomatic relations need not provoke hostilities.

President Wilson issued this statement through his secretary: "As soon as all the facts are ascertained our course of action will be determined."

When Secretary Lansing was told that a rumor was current in financial circles that Germany had offered apologies for the sinking of the Arabic, he replied that no such word had been received by this Government.

### WILSON MUST RUN AGAIN

Party Will Demand It, Declares Senator James.

Washington, Aug. 24.—Senator Olie M. James of Kentucky, one of the farseeing political leaders of the country, expressed the opinion yesterday that President Wilson would be renominated and re-elected.

"Wilson is stronger with the masses of the people than any man who has ever been in the White House in my time," said Senator James to The Sun Correspondent. "We are going to renominate him whether he wants it or not. Three years ago he wanted the nomination and the Democratic party gave it to him; next year the Democratic party will need him and he will have to take the nomination. We will make him take it. The people of the United States are for Wilson for another term, and the Democratic party is going to see that the people's wishes are gratified."

PEACHES.—Dr. Outcalt will have choice peaches for sale all week. 122 S. Washington, Street.

### MIGHT SEIZE SHIPS.

German Steamship Companies Have \$40,000,000 Worth in American Ports.

Washington, Aug. 24.—What would be the attitude of the United States toward the many interned German vessels in the ports of this country in the event of war, is being discussed in Washington now with a great deal of interest. German steamship companies have vessels tied up in American ports which are supposed to be worth \$40,000,000, and then there are several German war vessels interned at American ports.

There have been suggestions that the United States might seize the \$40,000,000 worth of German vessels by way of reprisal if Germany continued to violate American rights on the high seas. It has been realized, though, that such a reply would be regarded by Germany as an act of war, or would lead at least to reprisals by her against American property in Germany.

In the event of war many believe that the United States would immediately seize these important German vessels and rapidly convert them to its own use. That they would make valuable auxiliaries to the United States Navy is, of course, apparent. There is no doubt that if the probable break with Germany threatened to extend beyond the rupture of diplomatic relations, a very close watch would be kept on these vessels.

Of course, the United States would be unable to prevent the sailing of the German merchantmen now tied up in these ports before there had been any declaration of war unless it was suspected that the neutrality of this country was being violated. There is good reason to believe, however, that the warships of the allies would be on the watch for any attempt by these German merchantmen to escape, and this circumstance may account partially for the reported reappearance of British men of war off Sandy Hook.

### TO BE ELECTRIC BATTLESHIP

September 10 Date For Laying California's Keel.

New York, Aug. 24.—The keel of the battleship California will be laid in the New York Navy Yard on September 10, it was announced yesterday.

The California will be the first fighting craft in any navy to be equipped with electric engines for her own propulsion, although such engines have been thoroughly tested by the collier Jupiter.

About 12,000,000 pounds of steel are ready to be used in the building of the ship.

In most respects other than the engines, the California will resemble the battleship Arizona, but will have a tonnage of 32,000 as compared to the Arizona's 31,400.

### DENIES ATTACK BY ARABIC

British Admiralty Says Liner Was Sunk Without Warning.

London, Aug. 24.—Supplementing official information given out previously concerning the sinking of the Arabic, the British Admiralty has made the following announcement: "The Arabic was an unarmed passenger ship, outward bound to a neutral port. It was thus impossible for her to have been carrying contraband to this country."

"She was sunk by a German submarine without warning and she neither attempted to attack the submarine nor to escape from it."

The Admiralty authorized a denial of the report that the steamer Dunley, torpedoed shortly before the Arabic was sunk, was an armed patrol. The Admiralty states that the Dunley was a peaceful and unarmed trader.

### AUTOMOBILES FOR SALE

1-5 passenger Rambler. Electric Lights and Starter. 5 non-skid tires. First class condition ..... \$500.00  
1-5 passenger Marion, just overhauled and in perfect condition \$150.00  
Several used Fords in perfect condition from ..... \$300.00 up  
FLETCHER-DEMAINE CO.  
817 King St.

OLD BOOKS WANTED.—Lots from 100 to 10,000. Entire Libraries Preferred. Apply to Jas. C. LaPorte, 122 S. Royal St., Alexandria, Va. 24-3t.

## MILLION MEN MAY BE WANTED

General Staff Prepares Plan For Possible War with Germany

### QUOTA OF THE STATES

United States Army Officers Estimate it Would Take a Year to Get Troops Ready For Service

Washington, Aug. 24.—One million able-bodied men, between the ages of 18 and 45 years, will have to be called upon to volunteer if the United States is forced into a war with Germany.

This is the minimum number which officers of the General Staff and the Army War College have decided would be an initial requirement if the United States Government goes into the war with any idea of sending an army to Europe. The War College has mapped out comprehensive plans for the organization, training and mobilization of the forces including those which might be sent abroad and those which would be kept in the states for defensive purposes.

The plans are said to be based upon a theory that this country might send troops abroad to be used with the English forces "somewhere in Flanders" or with the land forces at the Dardanelles.

The first step which would be taken in the war movement would be for Congress to authorize the President to issue a call for volunteers. This call would be issued by the President in the form of a proclamation stating briefly the reasons for the war and calling upon men to volunteer. Under the law first preference would be given to the organized state militia organizations which had a total strength in 1914 of 119,000 officers and men, or about 15,000 below the peace strength prescribed for the organized militia. At war strength these organizations, it is estimated, could be raised to approximately 200,000. The state militia would be called on to volunteer by companies, regiments or brigades depending on the extent to where they were sent.

When the full strength of the organized militia was complete, new regiments of volunteers would be organized as rapidly as possible.

The volunteers and militia forces would be mobilized first according to brigades and then by divisions. For purposes of peace organizations the War College has already divided the country into 12 tactical divisions, varying in size according to density of population. For example the sixth division comprises New York State alone whereas another division embraces practically the states of the Southwest. Maryland is in the eighth division, embracing Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia. With 1,400,000 men called to the colors, these divisions would be subdivided so that New York State for example would comprise three divisions of \$20,000 men each, or what would amount to a field army.

According to the plans of the War Department, the troops already trained, including the regular army and the organized militia would serve as the "first line" of defense, under cover of which volunteers would be trained. Not until this training was well under way, it is believed, would any part of the army embark upon offensive operations.

It is planned to place at the head of each division a regular army officer and in other cases where trained officers were needed there would be a general interchange between the officers of the regular army and of the militia in such way as to get the greatest possible efficiency.

This is to give notice that Certificate No. 18, for Two Shares of Stock of The Alexandria Water Company, standing in the name of Anna M. Dempsey has been lost or mislaid. ALFRED THOMSON, Executor 24-wk.

### LOCAL BREVITIES

Funeral services for Mrs. Alice G. Poss will take place this afternoon at 5 o'clock from her late home, 1409 King street, and will be conducted by the Rev. W. F. Watson, pastor of the First Baptist Church.

Martha Myers, the woman who attacked Special Officer Allen who killed James Brooks who was resisting arrest, was sent to jail for six months today by Justice Caton.

Mrs. Margaret A. Farmer, 45 years old, wife of George W. Farmer, whose home is at Del Ray, Alexandria county, died last night at the Alexandria Hospital following a short illness. Her body was sent to Fredericksburg today for interment.

Funeral services for Michael Creagan were held this morning from St. Mary's Catholic Church and were conducted by the Rev. L. F. Kelly. The pallbearers were John McKenna, T. McGowan, F. T. Quinn, William Desmond, Alfonso Lucas and Martin E. Greene.

Hard Shell Crabs, Deviled Crabs, and Crab Salad, in our own delicious style. Jacob Brill, foot of King St.

### CORONER'S VERDICT.

Jury Declares Leo M. Frank Lynched—Are Unknown.

Marietta, Ga., Aug. 24.—At 11:40 the coroner's jury inquiring into the lynching of Leo M. Frank retired to consider its verdict without having heard any testimony concerning the identity of any person connected with the affair.

The jury in three minutes returned a verdict that Frank "came to his death by hanging at the hands of parties unknown."

Miss Cora Duffey, is visiting friends in Hyattsville, Md.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred C. Moss have returned from their wedding trip and are visiting Mrs. Moss' mother on Seminary Hill.

William B. Nelson, a young white man, charged with the larceny of a diamond ring valued at \$100, was turned over to the Washington authorities yesterday.

Milford Chambers son of Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Engineer George Chambers, of Martinsburg, W. Va., was injured probably fatally Sunday night at the intersection near the latter place. The boy climbed a metal electric light pole for a distance of 40 feet, stood upon one of the iron arms and grasped another with his hands, completing a circuit. He was hurled to the ground, suffering two fractures of each leg and severe burns about the body. His death is expected.

George Elliott, of Capesville near Norfolk, who married Miss Goldie Jones, daughter of Policeman B. F. Jones, last week disappeared the next day. The police failed to find him and he did not return to his home in Capesville. His wife and her parents thought he had met with foul play. The missing bridegroom rode yesterday to the home of his wife in Salisbury, Md. He said he "came to himself," there and decided to return to Norfolk.

### POST CARDS

Get ready for the G. A. R. Reunion. More visitors for Alexandria than she has had the past 20 years. I have the historic cards that will interest the old soldiers. The Marshall House, Carlyle House, Braddock House, Christ Church, Confederate Monument. As long as they last \$5. per thousand. Order quick.

T. F. ELLIS  
Mt. Vernon, Va.

### FORD FORD FORD

We have found it advisable to change the day of our Ford talks to every Tuesday 7:30 to 9 p. m. commencing tonight. Its free to all automobile owners come.

Remischel Auto Sales Co.  
117 N. Fairfax St.

## DAUGHTER'S BEAU KILLS HER FATHER

Assailant Stands Over Victim With Gun Keeping off Help

### OUTCOME OF QUARREL

Wounded Farmer Dies in Ten Minutes—Slayer is Believed by Authorities to Have Left State

Martinsville, Va., August 24.—George W. Shackelford, a merchant and farmer residing in the Ridgeway District of Henry County, was shot and almost instantly killed at his home on Saturday afternoon. The shooting was done by Elijah Sams, a young white man about twenty-two years old, and was the result of bad feeling between them.

Sams is alleged to have been paying attention to one of Shackelford's daughters, which was objectionable to Shackelford. It is also said that he had broken up a buggy belonging to Shackelford.

Sams went to Shackelford's home on Saturday and, after a quarrel, was ordered away. He returned soon with a gun. Shackelford left home to avoid trouble, and Sams is alleged to have drawn the gun upon the daughter and then to have shot a dog. Thinking Sams had gone, Shackelford returned and was shot in the leg, leading to death in about ten minutes.

The dead man's friends say that Sams would not allow any of the family to minister to his wounds keeping them off with the gun.

A warrant was issued for Sams' arrest but he has not been apprehended. He is believed to have left the State. His father came to Martinsville yesterday morning and retained counsel for his son.

Sams claims to have acted in self-defense. All of the persons concerned are well known and the shooting caused considerable excitement in the Ridgeway neighborhood.

### DANCED HIMSELF TO DEATH

Man Keeps It Up Until He Drops From Exhaustion.

Philadelphia, Aug. 23.—Over-exercising while dancing in honor of his brother's birthday caused the sudden death, yesterday afternoon, of Joe Viteenasti 56 years old, of Manayunk. In company with a score of friends Viteenasti attended a party at the home of his brother John, in this city.

There were two accordions plied by outiring musicians and Joe yielded to the lure of the dance until overcome with fatigue. Going into the back yard to rest, he suddenly pitched forward to the ground and was dead when picked up by his brother a moment later. Dr. Joseph Lehman was called in and said the man's death had resulted from heart failure superinduced by exhaustion.

### NINTH SHIP UNDER U. S. FLAG

Dutch Steamer Owned by Company With German Backer.

Washington, Aug. 24.—Acting Secretary Sweet, of the Department of Commerce, authorized the issuance of American registry yesterday to the Dutch steamer Laura now at Rotterdam.

The Laura is the ninth to be admitted of 12 ships proposed for American registry by the American Transatlantic Company, headed by Richard G. Wagner.

According to information at the Department of Commerce, the corporation owning the vessel was financed by Hugo Schmees, a German capitalist.

Edward Scardis aged four was killed in Pittsburgh, Pa., Sunday while watching a baseball game when struck over the heart by a bat, said to have been in the hands of Charles Kleber, aged 25.

FOR SALE.—100 White Leghorn Hens—good layers. R. N. Rust, R. F. D. No. 3 23-1w